

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method of downregulating interleukin-12 production in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an interleukin-12 downregulating amount of a ligand of complement receptor 3 and/or complement receptor 4 effective in downregulating interleukin-12 production. Also provided is a method of reducing an interleukin-12-induced inflammatory response in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an amount of a ligand of complement receptor 3 and/or complement receptor 4 effective in reducing the interleukin-12-induced inflammatory response. In addition, the present invention provides a method of reducing the symptoms characteristic of an autoimmune disease by downregulating interleukin-12 production, comprising administering to the subject an amount of a ligand of complement receptor 3 or complement receptor 4 effective in downregulating interleukin-12 production, thereby reducing the symptoms characteristic of an autoimmune disease. Further provided is a method of treating or preventing the interleukin-12-induced inflammatory response of an autoimmune disease in a human subject, comprising administering to a subject an amount of a ligand of complement receptor 3 or complement receptor 4 effective in downregulating production of interleukin-12, thereby treating or preventing the interleukin-12-induced inflammatory response of an autoimmune disease.

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